

REMARKS

Claims 20-27 are pending in this application. Claims 1-19, which were allowed in the parent case, are canceled from this application.

In the parent case, claims 20-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Huang et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,308, 282 ("Huang"). In order for there to be anticipation, each and every element of the claimed invention must be present in a single, prior reference. Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention is not taught, suggested, or implied by Huang.

In particular, as discussed in response to the previous Official Action, an aspect of the present invention relates to providing redundant back up signaling "in parallel" with primary signaling in the event that the primary signaling fails. A single media connection is maintained and is supported initially by the primary signaling. Thus, claim 20 has been amended to recite "signaling for said single media connection being provided by said primary signaling connection." Because the secondary signaling is provided "in parallel" with the primary signaling, even if the primary signaling fails, the media connection will be maintained.

In contrast, Huang does not appear to provide a single media connection with multiple signaling connections. Instead, Huang provides for primary and standby "data communications" channels, whereby the standby channel takes over if the primary channel fails. That is, "active resources are generally associated with normal data communications and stand-by resources are generally associated with data communications in the even of a failure of some active resource." Col. 7, lines 54-57. These "data communications" channels appear to be for both signaling and media. Thus, like the other prior art of record, Huang appears to merely relate to providing an alternate connection if a primary connection fails. As such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections of the claims.

For reasons similar to those discussed above, Applicants respectfully submit that newly added claims 23-27 are likewise allowable.

For all of the above reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance, which allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully requested,

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